WST2 CENTER HOSTS TECHNOLOGY EXCHANGE

When Alaska DOT went looking for business models that applied the latest GIS/GPS technologies, one of the three states they choose to visit WSDOT. They contacted Roger Chappell in the T2 Technology Transfer Center to host a technology exchange. The day was packed with back-to-back meetings and hands on displays of some of WSDOT's most exciting GIS and GPS related applications.

The day started with a trip to the Transportation Data Office, Roadway Data Section.
There Mark Finch, Brian Limotti, Max Schade demonstrated the GPS/LRS Data Collection Van.
This Equipment uses a combination of GPS and inertial guidance to collect raw GPS data points. These data points are used to help generate very accurate GIS base maps.

Then Mark Finch introduced us to the next step in the process, the GPS/LRS Surveys Office. Glenn Davis and Martha Marrah showed us how the GPS data was reviewed and processed before going out to the Cartography/GIS section to be made into maps.
Tom Smith the mapping grade GPS trainer was also on hand to discuss the role of mapping grade GPS data collection.

Mark then introduced the group to Lee Arnold and Cindy Gonia. Lee Arnold demonstrated the SR View van equipment, which is used to gather digital images of all WSDOT roadways. Cindy Gonia demonstrated the processing and reproduction center. These images are distributed and can then be seen on any computer within WSDOT, and are also available over the web as well.

Our next stop was with Chris Kemp and Michelle Blake from the MIS, Data Management Services section. They discussed data warehousing, data marts and the WSDOT data catalog. The geospatial data catalog is a web based catalog that helps both internal and external customers access spatial data to be used in GIS.

After lunch we settled in at the Cartography/GIS Section. Ron Cihon and Marci Carte were our hosts for the afternoon. Ron brought in Allen Blake who is the cartographer who makes the routes from the GPS/LRS data. After walking through the process of geospatial route creation, Ron gave a demonstration on how to derive map accuracies.
Next on the agenda, Marci Carte gave a demonstration of WSDOT's GIS Madog product, and finally Carol Kenstowicz demonstrated several of WSDOT's Internet Map Serving projects.

In the debriefing time after the exchange, Alaska DOT said that they were very impressed with how WSDOT had applied these various technologies. In several areas they will be looking at WSDOT to serve as a model for their own technological development, and wanted to thank all those who took the time to share with them during this exchange. They rated this technology exchange as highly beneficial and said that it greatly exceeded any their of their expectations.

This page was revised on: 8/7/01